HIV Reporting by Unnamed Test Code

On August 27, 2001, Hawaii Administrative Rules (Title 11, Chapter 156, Statue 8.8 for physicians and 8.9 for laboratories) were updated to mandate that Human Immune Deficiency (HIV) infection be reported to the Department of Health (DOH) using an unnamed test code (UTC). HIV positive case reports are to be submitted by physicians and laboratories that perform HIV testing. This new requirement for HIV reporting is an addition to the current Acquired Immune Deficiency (AIDS) reporting. AIDS is reportable across the nation. In Hawaii AIDS reporting started in 1983 and it is name based. As of September 30, 2001, 2,511 of AIDS cases were reported to the AIDS Surveillance Program. Because of new treatments and prevention, incidence of AIDS has decreased dramatically in the recent years. AIDS data alone do not reflect the current status of HIV/AIDS epidemic in Hawaii.

Figure 1 shows an example of how to create UTC for HIV reporting. It only contains seven digits from name and date of birth, first digit of last name, 5 digits from date of birth and second digit of first name. According to the Administrative Rules, the UTC will be created in physician's office and in laboratories. Laboratories will report a HIV+ test result with UTC and physician's information to the Department of Health. Surveillance staff will wait to receive the case report from the physician ordering the test. Surveillance staff will follow up, with the physician, any case not reported within a standard period of time.

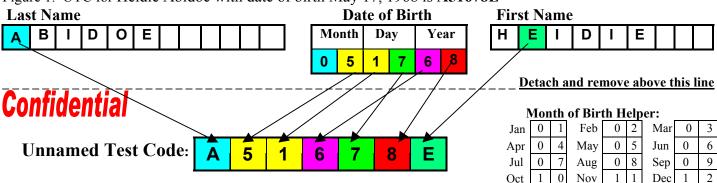


Figure 1. UTC for Heidie Abidoe with date of birth May 17, 1968 is A51678E

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about HIV+ Reporting:

To whom do we report HIV+ cases?

Department of Health Surveillance Program 3627 Kilauea Avenue, Suite 306 Honolulu, HI 96816

Tel: (808) 733-9010

How will security and confidentiality of reported HIV/AIDS be assured?

The HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program maintains absolute confidentiality of current AIDS cases at all times. HIV reporting with UTC is under the same level of security and confidentiality.

Which positive test results need to be reported?

- 1. A confirmatory HIV Western Blot result or HIV-IFA
- 2. Positive HIV detection test (HIV+ culture, antigen, PCR: DNA or RNA probe)
- 3. Detectable Viral Load Test that indicates HIV+ (NASBA, RT-PCR, bDNA, and others)
- 4. Other test(s) indicative of HIV as defined by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Do we need to report HIV+ diagnosis prior to August 27, 2001?

Yes, all HIV+ cases are required be reported, prevalent (existing cases) and incident (new cases).

Please contact surveillance staff Pritty Borthakur or Yuanshan (Sandy) Qiu at 733-9010 for reporting forms or any further questions regarding HIV reporting.

Epidemiologic Profile is available: The Epidemiologic Profile of HIV/AIDS in Hawaii 2001 was prepared by surveillance staff and contains current AIDS and all related data of HIV/AIDS in Hawaii. To receive a copy of this profile please contact surveillance staff at (808) 733-9010, (808) 733-9015 (fax) or mail 3627 Kilauea Avenue, Suite 306, Honolulu, HI 96816.

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